



NEVADA
DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY

September 2, 2008

Mayor Oscar Goodman
City of Las Vegas
400 E. Stewart Ave., 10th Fl.
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Las Vegas City Council
City Hall
400 E. Stewart Avenue, 10th Fl.
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

The Nevada Development Authority (NDA) is pleased to support the City's Sustainable Energy Strategy.

I recently attended and spoke at the National Clean Energy Summit. The Summit highlighted the importance of a renewable energy future for the nation and the tremendous opportunities for Nevada to become a leader in the generation, transmission and storage of clean energy. The NDA has identified clean energy as a target industry, as our mission is to attract and retain companies that wish to pursue these opportunities and bring good paying jobs to southern Nevada.

We, as a community, must continue to demonstrate to potential companies that we are fully invested in a clean energy future. The Sustainable Energy Strategy, when implemented, will provide the leadership and commitment that NDA targeted businesses, research organizations, and a skilled and educated workforce are looking for.

This is but one more example of why the City of Las Vegas received the World Leadership Award. I appreciate your continued support of the NDA, and look forward to working with the City as it implements the Sustainable Energy Strategy.

Warmest regards,

Somer Hollingsworth
ASH:kp

Submitted at City Council

Date 9/3/08 Item 45

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Mayor Goodman
City Council
City Hall, First Floor
400 Stewart Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Honorable Mayor Goodman and City Council Members:

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability appreciates this opportunity to voice its strong support for the proposed City of Las Vegas Sustainable Energy Strategy.

As a membership association of local governments, ICLEI has the good fortune of working with many of the American cities that are blazing the trail towards a sustainable energy future. Through our work, we hear directly from hundreds of cities every day about the innovative energy and climate protection efforts in which they are engaged. It is within this context that we recognize the importance of the Sustainable Energy Strategy, both for the City of Las Vegas and for the broader national local government movement to advance a smart energy approach for our country.

As proposed, the Sustainable Energy Strategy will build on the city's legacy of strong and leading work in this arena. Its comprehensive approach – from investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy for city operations, to creating sustainable practice criteria for the awarding of city contracts, to community-wide efforts to improve the energy performance of existing homes – will ensure that the best thinking of city government, other public sector entities, and the private sector is leveraged to create the new solutions that the future will demand.

In particular, I would like to call out the goal of applying a triple bottom line analysis to the city's major capital projects. This approach, though becoming more common in the private sector, remains unique amongst local government, and is another example of Las Vegas's commitment to innovation and leadership. This goal will ultimately benefit the Las Vegas community not just in relation to energy, but across the board, as sustainability becomes the driving force behind the decisions the city's elected officials and residents make about its future.

That said, with leadership comes responsibility. ICLEI understands the pressure that local governments face to get things right. As an ICLEI member, we stand ready to support Las Vegas through our tools, our trainings, and our network of nearly 500 local governments around the country who are actively engaged in climate and energy work.

To close, ICLEI urges the Las Vegas City Council to adopt the proposed Sustainable Energy Strategy. We look forward to assisting the city with its implementation.

Sincerely yours,



Mark Ruzzin
Director
Western States Regional Office